GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1516
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2002
PANCHAYAT SANCHAR SEVA KENDRA
DILIP KUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any policy has been formulated for providing better postal services in rural areas through 'Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Yojna';

(b) the number of 'Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Yojna Centres' opened in the country especially in Maharashtra duringlast three years including this year till date and the evaluation of their work disposal;

(c) whether there is any proposal to open 'Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Yojna Centre' in Maharashtra particularly at Ahmednagar; and

(d) if so, the details thereof;

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (Dr. S PASWAN)

(a) Yes, Sir. A target for opening of 1500 Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras during the year 2002-2003 all over the country is fixed for providing postal counter facility in the Gram Panchayat Villages which are having no post office. Opening of the PSSKs is subject to fulfillment of prescribed norms and availability of requisite resources.

(b) The Number of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras openedin the country and Maharashtra during the last three years is given in Annexure. All these PSSKs are providingcounter services relating to sale of postage stamps and stationery, booking of registered articles and grant of certificate of posting.

(c) & (d) Yes, Sir. A target for opening of 150 PSSKshas been fixed for Maharashtra Circle. The opening of PSSKsis subject to fulfillment of prescribed norms and availability of requisite resources. No separate target has been fixed for Ahmednagar.

ANNEXURE

NUMBER OF PSSKs OPENED DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS

YEAR	IN THE COUNTRY	IN MAHARASHTRA
1999-2000	482	62
2000-2001	1928	208
2001-2002	2042	150
2002-2003 (upto 30.6.2002)	Nil	Nil